



Natural Resources Conservation Service
75 High Street, Room 301
Morgantown, WV 26505

January 17, 2006

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV190-6-1

SUBJECT: ECS – Rangeland and Pastureland Conservationist of the Year

Purpose: To solicit nominations for the Rangeland and Pastureland Conservationist of the Year

Expiration Date: March 31, 2006

ACTION REQUIRED BY: JANUARY 31, 2006

Through the 14th Annual Rangeland Conservationist and the 8th Annual Pastureland Conservationist of the Year awards, the Natural Resources Conservation Service recognizes rangeland and pastureland conservationists who have exhibited superior accomplishments in rangeland and pastureland conservation.

Guidelines for submitting nominations for these awards, along with other information, are attached. Please note that nominations for these awards must be sent no later than Tuesday, January 31, 2006, to the National Range and Grazing Lands Ecologist, Ecological Sciences Division, by facsimile at (202) 720-2646 or e-mail to dennis.thompson@wdc.usda.gov. Do not send the nomination to the state office. Submit them directly, through either means, in the previous sentence.

/s/ William P. O'Donnell, Acting For

RONALD L. HILLIARD
State Conservationist

Attachment

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GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE RANGELAND AND PASTURELAND CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Objective:

To recognize NRCS employees who have exemplified outstanding service to NRCS, to their clients, and to science through development and implementation of sound technology transfer on grazingland resources. Two awards will be given – one for rangeland and one for pastureland activities.

Nomination Retention:

The National Range and Grazing Lands Ecologist, Ecological Sciences Division, will keep nominations for both awards for consideration for three years. Previously submitted nominations may be updated prior to expiration; however, updates are not required.

Eligibility:

All NRCS employees are eligible for either of these awards.

Evaluation of Nominations:

All entries will receive equal review and evaluation. Award winners will be determined strictly upon a written explanation of their activities in the application and development of technology for rangeland or pastureland conservation issues. A 100-point evaluation system will be used as follows:

Evaluation Criteria	Range of Points
A. Communication	0 – 15
B. Training	0 – 20
C. Relations	0 – 15
D. Application of Rangeland or Pastureland Management	0 – 20
E. Complexity of Work and Diversity of Achievements	0 – 25
F. Professional Activities	0 – 5
Total Possible Points	100

Explanation of Evaluation Criteria:

A. Communication: Provide details of nominees' presentations, articles; speeches, tours, etc. relative to rangeland or pastureland conservation.

B. Training: Describe nominees' accomplishments in training others in rangeland or pastureland management and conservation techniques.

C. Relations: Describe nominees' working relationships with various groups, individuals, organizations, agencies, and Tribal and local governments.

D. Application of Rangeland or pastureland Management: Describe nominees' assistance and/or technical contributions that have led to the application of outstanding grazinglands conservation.

E. Complexity of Work and Diversity of Achievements: Detail nominees' work diversity, and highlight their accomplishments in each type of activity. The write-up should illustrate nominees' commitment to grazinglands conservation while also highlighting some of their other duties.

F. Professional Activities: Describe nominees' activities and involvement with professional organizations such as the Society for Rangeland Management, American Society of Agronomy, American forage and Grassland/Council, Soil and Water Conservation Society, etc., which have assisted nominees in achieving outstanding application of grazinglands technology.

Preparing and Submitting Nominations:

To nominate NRCS employees for either of these awards:

1. Identify the award category (e.g., rangeland or pastureland) for which nominees are being nominated.
2. Prepare a written statement of nominees' accomplishments addressing the six evaluation criteria, not to exceed five total pages.
3. Do not submit any attachments or other supporting materials. All entries must stand equally.
4. Submit all nominations by **January 31, 2006**, to the National Range and Grazing Lands Ecologist, Ecological Sciences Division, by facsimile at (202) 720-2646 or e-mail dennis.thompson@wdc.usda.gov.